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Letter dated 15 October 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On 12 October 2016, the United States conducted missile strikes on radar facilities in Houthi-controlled territory in Yemen. Initial assessments show that the radar facilities were destroyed by the strikes.

These limited strikes were in response to anti-ship cruise missile launches perpetrated by Houthi insurgents that threatened United States Navy warships in the international waters of the Red Sea on 9 and 12 October. The targeted radar facilities were involved in the 9 October launches and other recent attacks. These limited and proportionate strikes were conducted to protect United States personnel and ships, and will preserve our freedom of navigation in this important maritime passageway.

These actions were taken with the consent of the Government of Yemen. Although the United States therefore does not believe notification pursuant to Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations is necessary in these circumstances, the United States nevertheless wishes to inform the Council that these actions were taken consistent with international law.

I request that the present letter be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Samantha J. **Power**
United States Ambassador to the United Nations

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